

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11497 01 OF 03 231617Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOE-15
SOE-02 NRC-05 OES-07 EB-08 EA-10 /164 W
-----089553 231654Z /46

P 231551Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2066
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USINT HAVANA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY RABAT
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
SECDEF WASHDC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11497 01 OF 03 231617Z

DIA WASHDC
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 MOSCOW 11497

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MOPS, SOPN, UR, US, CG

SUBJECT: SOVIET MAY 23 CENTRAL PRESS HITS U.S. AGAIN
ON ZAIRE EVENTS

REF: MOSCOW 11379

SUMMARY: MAY 23 SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS CONTINUES HEAVY
AND TENDENTIOUS COVERAGE OF SHABA EVENTS. CENTER-PIECE
IS LENGTHY, EXTREMELY CRITICAL, ANTI-U.S. ARTICLE IN
PRAVDA BY B. OREKHOV, WHICH, LIKE SERBIN ARTICLE IN
MAY 21 PRAVDA, EMPHASIZES RECENT STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT
CARTER CRITICAL OF SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN AFRICA. END SUMMARY

1. B. OREKHOV'S MAY 23 PRAVDA ARTICLE ON ZAIRE EVENTS
CONTINUES AND, IF ANYTHING, DEEPENS ANTI-U.S. THEME
REPORTED IN A. SERBIN'S MAY 21 PRAVDA ARTICLE (REFTEL).
OREKHOV'S ARTICLE PULLS OUT VIRTUALLY ALL STOPS IN
ATTACKING U.S./NATO POLICY WITH REGARD TO ZAIRE.
ARTICLE IS SO FILLED WITH CALUMNY AS TO ALMOST DEFY
ADEQUATE DESCRIPTION AND IT DOES DEFY SUMMARIZATION.
SINCE DEPT. WILL HAVE FBIS TRANSLATION, EMBASSY WILL
NOTE ONLY FOLLOWING BASIC THEMES (BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED):

-- AS RESULT OF MILITARY INTERVENTION, BLOOD IS BEING
SPILLED IN ZAIRE AND THERE ARE MANY WOUNDED AND KILLED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 11497 01 OF 03 231617Z

IN KOLWEZI REGION AND ELSEWHERE.

-- TALK OF SAVING "LIFE AND PROPERTY" IS ONLY AN
EXCUSE FOR INTERVENTION. NO MORE THAN 3,000 FOREIGNERS
LIVE IN ZAIRE OF WHOM "ONLY A FEW HUNDRED" ARE IN
SHABA PROVINCE. THE THESIS OF SAVING WHITES FROM
BLACKS IS RACIST AND SMACKS OF GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY.
AT ANY RATE, "IN OUR TECHNOLOGICAL AGE" THE EVACUATION
OF SUCH A SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE COULD HAVE BEEN
CARRIED OUT WITHOUT GREAT COMPLICATION AND WITHOUT
OUTSIDE MILITARY INTERFERENCE ON SUCH A SCALE. THE
REAL HEART OF THE MATTER IS CONCERN IN WASHINGTON
AND NATO CAPITALS FOR THE INTERESTS OF THEIR MONOPOLIES
WHICH EXPLOIT ZAIRE'S MINERAL WEALTH.

-- IT IS CLEAR FROM THE PRECISE COORDINATION OF THE
ACTIONS OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND FROM THE
PREPARATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THOSE COUNTRIES BY THE
BOURGEOIS PRESS AND BY POLITICAL FIGURES, THAT THE
MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE WAS PLANNED IN ADVANCE.
AMONG THE "FABRICATIONS AND ACCUSATIONS" DESIGNED TO
DEFLECT PUBLIC ATTENTION FROM THE PREPARATIONS FOR

DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE WERE:

A) PRESIDENT CARTER'S (MARCH 17) WAKE FOREST SPEECH WHICH WAS DISTINGUISHED BY ITS "ANTI-SOVIET FABRICATIONS" SUCH AS THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENT ON THE "OMINOUS INCLINATION" OF THE SOVIET UNION TO USE ITS MILITARY POWER FOR INTERFERENCE IN MILITARY CONFLICTS IN AFRICA;

B) ATTEMPTS BY SOME U.S. POLITICAL AND OFFICIAL FIGURES TO ASCRIBE TO THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA INTERFERENCE IN THE SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN CONFLICT;

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11497 02 OF 03 231624Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 EA-10
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00
DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-05 OES-07 EB-08 /164 W
-----089604 231654Z /46

P 231551Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2067
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USINT HAVANA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY RABAT
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
SECDEF WASHDC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11497 02 OF 03 231624Z

DIA WASHDC
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 MOSCOW 11497

C) THE ORGANIZED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN WITH REGARD
TO THE "SOVIET-CUBAN DANGER" TO ZAIRE.

-- THE IMPERIALIST INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE IS ONE MORE
WITNESS TO THE FACT THAT THE "ENDLESS CHATTER" ABOUT
THE DEFENSIVE CHARACTER OF NATO IS A MYTH. IT IS
NOT HIDDEN IN OFFICIAL NATO CIRCLES THAT THE ACTS
OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES IN AFRICA ARE COORDINATED
AND DIRECTED BY THE U.S. THROUGH SACEUR - GENERAL HAIG.

-- IN HIS (MAY 19) INTERVIEW WITH U.S. LOCAL
NEWSPAPER EDITORS, PRESIDENT CARTER ADMITTED U.S.
PARTICIPATION IN THE "INVASION" OF ZAIRE; THUS OPEN
MILITARY INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER
COUNTRIES IS SEEN BY THE U.S. AS A MEANS OF SOLVING
THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF THESE COUNTRIES. AND THIS
AFTER ENDLESS TALK ABOUT "HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS"
AND AFTER LOUD WASHINGTON ACCUSATIONS AGAINST "OTHER
COUNTRIES" FOR VIOLATION OF THESE RIGHTS.

-- DESPITE THIS OPEN MILITARY INTERVENTION, THERE IS
SILENCE ON CAPITOL HILL. SILENCE IS GOLDEN; IN THIS
CASE GOLD EXTORTED FROM THE HEART OF ZAIRE FOR THE
U.S. AND OTHER MONOPOLIES (END UNCLASSIFIED).

2. COMPARED TO OREKHOV'S MASTERPIECE OF DEFAMATION,
OTHER ZAIRE RELATED TASS ARTICLES IN MAY 23 SOVIET
CENTRAL PRESS PALE INTO INSIGNIFICANCE. FOR THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 11497 02 OF 03 231624Z

RECORD, WE NOTE THE FOLLOWING THEMES (BEGIN UNCLASSI-
FIED):

-- DESPITE MORE VISIBLE FRENCH AND BELGIAN PARTICIPA-

TION IN INTERVENTION, U.S. HAS CRUCIAL ROLE OF COORDINATION AND AIR LIFT ASSISTANCE.

-- ANGOLAN AMBASSADOR IN BRUSSELS WARNS THAT ANY FOREIGN MILITARY OPERATION ON TERRITORY OF ZAIRE WOULD BE REGARDED AS AN ACT OF WAR. ANGOLAN AMB. ALSO SAYS THAT ASSURANCES HAVE BEEN GIVEN GOVERNMENTS OF FRANCE, BELGIUM, AND U.S. THAT ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT WILL EXTEND PROTECTION TO ALL EUROPEANS CROSSING ANGOLAN BORDER WHILE BEING EVACUATED FROM SHABA AND WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR OWN COUNTRIES.

-- OTRAG FACILITIES IN ZAIRE (AND PLANNED LAUNCH AT END OF MAY) SERVES AS THREAT TO CAUSE OF PEACE ON AFRICAN CONTINENT.

-- "HOOLIGAN ATTACK" ON SOVIET EMBASSY IN KINSHASA THREATENED LIFE OF WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THAT EMBASSY (TELEPHONE CALLS FOR HELP WENT UNANSWERED) AND WAS UNDERTAKEN TO DEFLECT PUBLIC ATTENTION IN ZAIRE FROM FACT OF INTERVENTION BY NATO COUNTRIES (END UNCLASSIFIED).

3. COMMENT: ITEM DESCRIBED ABOVE, ON ATTACK ON SOVIET EMBASSY IN KINSHASA, IS WRITTEN IN OFFICIAL STYLE AND MAY REPRESENT TEXT OF A NOTE SENT BY SOVIETS TO ZAIRIANS ON THE INCIDENT. WE NOTE A DECIDED SHIFT IN SOVIET MEDIA TREATMENT AWAY FROM FACT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11497 03 OF 03 231627Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 EA-10
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00
DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-05 OES-07 EB-08 /164 W
-----089641 231655Z /46

P 231551Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2068
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USINT HAVANA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY RABAT
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11497 03 OF 03 231627Z

SECDEF WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 MOSCOW 11497

OF SHABA EVENTS - EVEN PRESENTED AS INTERNAL
DEVELOPMENT - AND TOWARD ALLEGED U.S. ROLE AS PLANNER
AND ORGANIZER OF MILITARY INTERVENTION WHICH HAS BEEN
CARRIED OUT IN NATO CONTEXT.

4. OREKHOV'S ARTICLE, NEEDLESS TO SAY, CONTINUES
UNUSUAL, PERSONAL ATTACK ON PRESIDENT CARTER WHICH
FIRST SURFACED IN SIGNIFICANT MANNER IN MAY 21
PRAVDA ARTICLE BY A. SERBIN. ANY ARTICLE IN PRAVDA
CARRIES A CERTAIN MEASURE OF AUTHORITY AND WE ASSUME
THAT THESE SPECIFIC ATTACKS ON THE PRESIDENT WOULD
NOT BE PERMITTED WITHOUT POLICY GUIDANCE AND APPROVAL
FROM HIGHER POLITICAL AUTHORITIES. MATLOCK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW11497
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780216-1008
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780529/aaaaayji.tel
Line Count: 326
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 90914698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 11379
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2603736
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET MAY 23 CENTRAL PRESS HITS U.S. AGAIN ON ZAIRE EVENTS
TAGS: PINS, MOPS, SOPN, UR, US, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/90914698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014